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<p style="text-align: center;">Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(use as many sheets as necessary)</p> <p>SHEET 1 of 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">COMPLETE IF KNOWN</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Application Number</td> <td>09/862,869</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Confirmation Number</td> <td>1083</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>May 22, 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>N. Honma et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>1751</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>NOT YET ASSIGNED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>AA472</td> </tr> </table>	Application Number	09/862,869	Confirmation Number	1083	Filing Date	May 22, 2001	First Named Inventor	N. Honma et al.	Group Art Unit	1751	Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED	Attorney Docket Number	AA472
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### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
ME		3,650,816	A	Rudy et al.	03-21-1972	
ME		4,026,131	A	Dugger et al.	05-31-1977	
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ME		5,080,810	A	Smith et al.	01-14-1992	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
ME		EP 0 157 653	A2	Flynn et al.	10-09-1985		
ME		EP 0 284 191	A2	Ogar et al.	09-28-1988		
ME		EP 0 918 089	A1	Masschelein	05-29-1999		
ME		PCT WO 96/30489	A2	Beaujean	10-03-1996		
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ME		PCT WO 98/16614	A1	Miracle et al.	04-23-1998		
ME		PCT WO 00/23646	A1	VanHauwermeiren et al.	04-27-2000		

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>6</sup>

<b>EXAMINER</b> M. Eidsman	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b> 7.23.03
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